



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1642  
Examiner : Canella, Karen A.  
Serial No. : 09/503,089  
Filed : February 11, 2000  
Inventors : Amanda J. Patel  
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Title : A METHOD FOR THE  
        IDENTIFICATION OF  
        ANESTHETICS



22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 1201-CIP-3-00

Confirmation No.: 6089

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AMENDMENT

**Box AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated May 23, 2002, Applicants amend as follows:

Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made to the Claims

13. (Twice Amended) A method for identifying substances having anesthetic properties, wherein said substances produce a reversible state of unconsciousness with concurrent amnesia and analgesia in a mammal upon inhalation comprising:
  - (a) contacting said substance with a TREK-1 or TASK mammalian potassium transport protein, wherein said potassium transport TREK-1 or TASK protein exhibits outward-going potassium rectification; and
  - (b) determining the potassium transport activity of said potassium transport TREK-1 or TASK protein, wherein an activation of potassium transport is indicative of said substance having anesthetic properties.
19. (Twice Amended) A method for identifying substances having anesthetic properties, wherein said substances produce a reversible state of unconsciousness with concurrent amnesia and